

CLAIMS:

1. An instrument for the insertion of an intraocular lens into an eye, which comprises a body portion, a nose portion forwardly of the body portion and having a lumen 5 through which the lens is arranged to pass, and push rod means moveable through the body portion and the nose portion to push an inserted lens forwards, wherein there is provided in the nose portion means defining a passageway therethrough, the passageway having a configuration which includes a smoothly 10 continuous undulating surface upon which a lens to be inserted is arranged to rest.

2. An instrument according to claim 1, in which the means defining the passageway is an insert having an external configuration which makes it non-rotatable with the nose 15 portion.

3. An instrument according to claim 2, in which the insert has a forwardly projecting portion shaped to match the internal configuration of the lumen through the nose portion and providing guide means for the forward guidance of the 20 lens.

4. An instrument according to any preceding claim, in which the undulating surface comprises two upstanding arcuate ribs at the bottom of the passageway.

5. An instrument according to claim 4, in which the 25 ribs are equispaced either side of the centre of the passageway, with a depression between them and depressions at the outside of each rib.

6. An instrument according to claim 4 or 5, in which a cutout is provided in the means defining the passageway to 30 accommodate the trailing haptic of a lens.

7. An instrument according to claim 6, in which the

cutout is an extension of the passageway at one side of the bottom of the passageway adjacent to one of said ribs.

8. An instrument according to claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the undulating surface is provided by a recess in the bottom of the passageway, bounded by a shoulder on each side.

9. An instrument according to claim 8, in which the recess reduces in depth and width in the direction away from the push rod means, to define an upwardly sloping surface on which the lens is to be deposited.

10 10. An instrument according to claim 2 or 3, in which the insert is provided with means to locate a pair of forceps when a lens is deposited in the passageway.

11. An instrument according to any preceding claim, in which the nose portion is pivotable through 90° relative to 15 the body portion.

12. An instrument according to any preceding claim, in which the lateral sides of the passageway are recessed to accommodate a lens of 6,mm diameter.